Group Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Richard Shaffer

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

In re application of: Paul McAfee

Serial Number: 10/645,202

Filed: August 21, 2003

For: METAL BACKED UHMWPE ROD SLEEVE SYSTEM PRESERVING

SPINAL MOTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2006 ("Office Action"), Applicant hereby requests an extension of time for making this response, and responds as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.